

prosecution or indictment in Court), the other would strike him with his fist and then they would scuffle out of the fight in their own way, fist and skull, without the use of knives, sticks or pistols, until one would call out "calf rope," which meant take him away and was evidence of defeat.

All this was in 1826. In 1881, there were 114 families in Beaver Dam township, 84 white and 60 colored. Most of the whites are descendants of the old settlers of 55 years ago. The township is now dotted over with beautiful buildings, surrounded by well cultivated cotton, corn and wheat fields. The cotton crop of last year alone was over 1200 packed bales, and a plenty of everything made for support and the farmers are all doing well.

There are three churches of a respectable membership. Education is generally diffused throughout the township and much being done to extend its good influences. There are several good stores, steam mills and other advantages, some of the best Democrats that ever trod shoe leather being not the least of them.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I would say, instead of speaking sluringly [sic] of Beaver Dam as the gallberry, as some are in the habit of doing, all should look upon it as the garden spot of the world, blessed with a fertile soil, a healthful and (salubrious) climate, and settled by a generous, hospitable, industrious and pious set of people, of whom in the language of Paul "I am least."

JESSE SMITH

Sources: *Eastern Reflector*, April, 1882 and July, 1885. As reprinted in CHRONICLES OF PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, supra.